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2024730-7033212001
03-168REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action mailed May 19, 2006, is requested in view of the amendments above and the following remarks. Prior to this amendment, claims 1 and 5-9 were pending and at issue in this application, and claims 2-4 and 10-48 were withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement and an election by applicant. Claim 1 has been amended herein. No new matter has been added.

Claim 1 remains a linking claim to all of the claims depending therefrom, and upon allowance of such linking claim, the restriction requirement is to be withdrawn as to such dependent claims.

I. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 and 5-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102, as being anticipated by Handler (U.S. Patent No. 4,676,655). Applicants submit that this rejection should be withdrawn because none of the prior art cited by the Examiner in the Office Action discloses or teaches the claimed invention for an apparatus for mixing and dispensing bone cement having a selectable stop and an output valve in fluid communication with the distal housing opening, the valve controllable to divert bone cement being dispensed from the chamber into one of a patient delivery lumen and a shunt lumen. In order to sustain a rejection for anticipation, each and every element of the claim must be found, either expressly or inherently, in a single prior art reference, and arranged as required by the claim. See MPEP § 2131; *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Claim 1 has been amend herein to further recite that the claimed invention includes "an output valve in fluid communication with the distal housing opening, the valve controllable to divert

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bone cement being dispensed from the chamber into one of a patient delivery lumen and a shunt lumen." The prior art cited in the § 102 rejection is devoid of any teaching of such a valve mechanism. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated by the cited prior art. Claims 5-9 depend from claim 1 and are therefore not anticipated by the cited prior art for at least the same reasons applicable to claim 1.

CONCLUSION

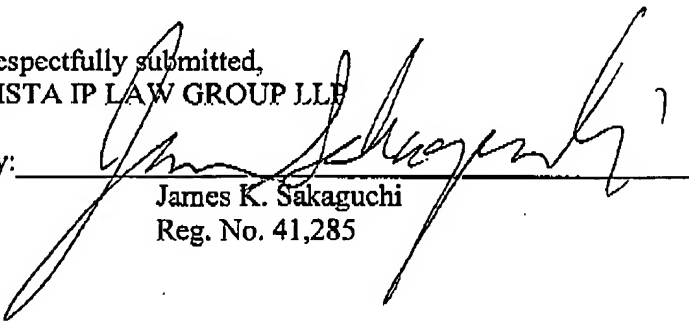
Any claim amendments which are not specifically discussed in the above remarks are not made for reasons of patentability, do not affect the scope of the claims, and it is respectfully submitted that the claims satisfy the statutory requirements for patentability without the entry of such amendments. These amendments have only been made to increase claim readability, to improve grammar, or to reduce the time and effort required of those in the art to clearly understand the scope of the claim language.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submits that all of the examiner's rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, allowance is earnestly solicited. If the examiner feels that a telephone interview could expedite resolution of any remaining issues, the examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
VISTA IP LAW GROUP LLP

Dated: August 18, 2006

By: _____


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